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91473



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Level 3 English, 2017

91473 Respond critically to specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s), supported by evidence

2.00 p.m. Tuesday 14 November 2017
Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Respond critically to specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s), supported by evidence.	Respond critically and convincingly to specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s), supported by evidence.	Respond critically and perceptively to specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s), supported by evidence.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

Write ONE essay in this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–12 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

Achievement

TOTAL

04

ASSESSOR'S USE ONLY

You should aim to write a concise essay of no more than 1000 words. Quality of writing is more important than the length of your essay.

In your essay, discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement, and justify your answer. You should support your answer with evidence and reasoning, and you should make a close analysis of relevant texts.

Begin your visual or oral text(s) essay here:

Statement number: 4

~~The~~ The film 'Atonement' directed by Joe Wright in 2007 expresses the importance of characters changing and developing and therefore making them human. In a text, this is important because the development and growth of a character is what contributes to the connection between the audience and the characters in the film. As the main protagonist in the film, Briony Tallis changes as she goes through her life, ~~as~~ ~~we~~ we see her as a 13 year old, 18 year old and then finally as a 76 year old. This essay will describe how she changed and developed, giving her more realistic human characteristics that the audience can relate to.

In the first part of the film we see Briony as a 13 year old girl with a wild imagination and a passion for words and stories. In fact, the first thing the viewers see about Briony is that she has written a play called 'The Trials of Arabella' which indicates that she has a vivid imagination and is a storyteller. The audience may miss notice in the first shot that her bedroom is in

perfect condition; her bed made, shoes neatly placed beside her bed and her desk is set-up neatly. This suggests that she has a need to keep her life tidy, in other words she likes to have control over everything. Director Joe Wright said "she was one of those children possessed by the desire to have the world just so," supporting the idea that she likes everything her way. ~~Think~~ This links to her passion for writing as in stories she can control everything the way she likes it. This is continued after she witnesses events between her sister Cecilia and the housemaid's son, Robbie. After ~~mistakenly~~ innocently misinterpreting the fountain scene and the library scene, the idea that Robbie was the one who attacked Lola seemed to fit perfectly into the story that Briony had in her imagination. So, Briony convinced herself it was Robbie. As a result of this, Briony goes on to tell the police "I saw him, I saw him with my own eyes," because her version of the story made sense to her after what she had encountered earlier in the day.

An important aspect of the film that I noticed was the idea of perception and how different perspectives create opposite outcomes. As Briony grows, her perspective widens as she learns of her wrong doings. However, as a 13 year old Briony's

point of view of what occurred between Cecilia and Robbie is demonstrated through her inexperience. The use of the 'replay' of the two most significant scenes, the fountain scene and the library scene, shows the audience how different perspectives without knowing or understanding what is really happening can be dangerous. This is further emphasised in the library scene where there is a line of light down Briony's body, suggesting that she is only partially seeing what is happening. The fact that viewers can understand Briony's young mind in this instance which ultimately causes her to jump to wrong conclusions that helps us to identify the change in her character as she gets older.

The next time we see Briony is as an 18 year old doing her nurse's training at St. Thomas's hospital in London. This part of the film is significant because it is where the audience can see how she has changed. During her time at St. Thomas's she is dealing with the guilt of separating Robbie and Cecilia. This is shown through the obsessive scrubbing of her hands as if she is trying to cleanse herself of her guilt. This is significant because the audience may feel that it is a normal reaction to the crime she committed which further emphasises that it is the way that characters change in a text that makes them ~~more~~ human. It's where she realises what she has done.

wrong and her journey of atoneing for it begins here. Writing is a continued theme in this part of the film as she writes to Cecilia saying "I am beginning to understand the consequences of what I did," helping the audience to see the change from her 13 year old self to now. We also become aware that Briony is writing a story based around her past call "Two Figures by a Fountain." However she tells her nursing friend Fiona that she 'probably won't ever finish it,' which suggests that she may be battling ~~within herself~~ the conflict in herself with accepting the damage she has caused. A significant quote to support this is the repeated quote from the Head Nurse and also ~~Brion~~ later Briony: "There is no Briony," suggesting that she is erasing her identity.

While Briony is a teenager, the audience can see how her perception has changed as she has got older. She has come to the realisation that what she saw was not forceful nor aggressive from Robbie's part but was just passion in love. It is clear that as she has grown-up, she has matured with her change which is expected in human behaviour. We next see Briony as a 76 year old novelist who is in an interview about her last novel that is to be released on her 77th birthday. We discover that the novel is about the film we have just watched, revealing to

the audience that Briony is the 'eyes' of the story. In this part of the film, Briony expresses regret and heartbreak, love and guilt with untold compassion ~~as she honestly~~ is ~~confesses~~ honest in the confession of her childhood crime and lifelong attempts to atone. She attempts to make amends for the damage she did when she misinterpreted the events she saw, so in the novel re-writes it in the way she wished it had ended. In the interview, Briony says "I gave them the happy ending they so longed for and deserved." In the interview, we see Briony atoneing for her wrong doings and therefore we see her character change again which is important in ensuring the audience stay connected to her.

Ultimately, Brionys character changes in the text as she gets older and as she does this, her perspective on the events that changed her life develops also. This suggests to me the importance of how we as humans tend to jump to conclusions without really understanding what is going on. Briony teaches us that ~~the~~ ~~important~~ perspective is important and that we should not always believe what our minds want us to believe as the consequences can impact negatively on other peoples lives as well as your own. In addition to this, Brionys point of view changed and developed in the text and she realised what she had done and spent her life attempting to atone for it, for herself and also Robbie and Cecilia's happy ending which makes her human.

Achievement exemplar 2017

Subject:	English	Standard:	91473	Total score:	04
Q	Grade score	Annotation			
4	A4	<p><i>Atonement</i></p> <p>This essay begins with describing the character and her changes. The candidate is aware of the film as a construct.</p> <p>The argument includes some secondary material from the director. This demonstrates a developed understanding of the character and how and why she changes.</p> <p>Some precise observations and analysis of details are evident. The argument maintains its focus. It is structured in a straightforward way with a reasoned conclusion although it is slightly repetitive in places. It has an embedded sense of what makes Briony human rather than totally explicit.</p>			